BUDGET RESOLUTION/Farmland Protection Program

SUBJECT: Senate Concurrent Budget Resolution for fiscal years 2000-2009 . . . S.Con. Res. 20. Santorum/Leahy amendment No. 212.

ACTION: AMENDMENT AGREED TO, 97-1

SYNOPSIS: As reported, S.Con. Res. 20, the Senate Concurrent Budget Resolution for fiscal years 2000-2009: will cut the debt held by the public (money that the Federal Government owes to creditors other than itself) in half over 10 years; will fully fund Medicare (all of the President's proposed \$9 billion in Medicare cuts were rejected; as a result, this budget will allow \$20.4 billion more in Medicare spending over the next 10 years); will save the entire \$1.8 trillion in Social Security surpluses over the next 10 years for Social Security; will provide for \$778 billion in net tax relief over the next 10 years (in contrast, the President's budget would increase the tax burden by \$96 billion net over 10 years), and will adhere to the spending restraints (discretionary spending caps and pay-go provisions) of the bipartisan budget agreement as enacted in the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 and the Taxpayer Reform Act of 1997 (the President's proposed budget, in contrast, would dramatically increase spending in violation of that bipartisan agreement, and would result in \$2.2 trillion more in total Federal debt at the end of 10 years than proposed in this Senate budget).

The Santorum/Leahy amendment would express the sense of the Senate that the functional totals in this resolution assume that Congress will authorize additional appropriations for the Farmland Protection Program this year.

Those favoring the amendment contended:

Three years ago, on the Freedom to Farm Bill, Senators Santorum and Boxer sponsored an amendment to authorize a farmland preservation program. That authorization was supposed to last 5 years, but it has only lasted 3 years. The full amount authorized has already been appropriated, yet a tremendous need still remains, and a backlog of applications is piling up. Nineteen States have

(See other side) **YEAS (97)** NOT VOTING (2) NAYS (1) Republican **Democrats** Republicans Republicans **Democrats Democrats** (52 or 98%) (45 or 100%) (1 or 2%) (0 or 0%) **(2)** (0)Kyl Lugar-4 Abraham Hatch Akaka Kennedy Kerrey McCain-2 Baucus Allard Helms Ashcroft Hutchinson Bayh Kerry Bennett Hutchison Biden Kohl Bond Inhofe Bingaman Landrieu Brownback Jeffords Boxer Lautenberg Bunning Lott Breaux Leahy Burns Mack Bryan Levin Campbell McConnell Byrd Lieberman Chafee Murkowski Cleland Lincoln Cochran Nickles Mikulski Conrad Collins Roberts Daschle Moynihan Coverdell Roth Dodd Murray Craig Santorum Dorgan Reed **EXPLANATION OF ABSENCE:** Crapo Sessions Durbin Reid DeWine Robb Shelby Edwards 1—Official Business Domenici Smith, Bob Feingold Rockefeller 2-Necessarily Absent Enzi Smith, Gordon Feinstein Sarbanes 3-Illness Snowe Graham Schumer Fitzgerald 4-Other Harkin Torricelli Frist Specter Gorton Stevens Hollings Wellstone SYMBOLS: Gramm Thomas Inouve Wyden AY-Announced Yea Grams Thompson Johnson AN-Announced Nay Grassley Thurmond PY-Paired Yea Voinovich Gregg Hagel Warner PN-Paired Nay

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participated in this program to preserve farmland and agriculture communities that are under stress from urban sprawl and development. So far 123,000 acres have been saved. We urge our colleagues to join us in expressing support for authorizing more funding for this meritorious program.

No arguments were expressed in opposition to the amendment.